



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, V CORPS  
UNIT 29355  
APO AE 09014



AETV-CG

8 October 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Ride-Home Program

1. V Corps has lost 12 soldiers this year to POV accidents. Most of these accidents involved young soldiers who were either fatigued or under the influence of alcohol. It is my obligation to ensure that, to the greatest extent possible, the young men and women in my command do not operate a POV if they are impaired. Therefore, I am directing all V Corps unit commanders to implement a "Ride-Home" program that offers our soldiers a safe ride home.
2. The best option for soldiers to avoid POV accidents is always to plan ahead. Soldiers can celebrate sober, have a designated driver, or save money for a taxi. There are many creative ways, however, to ensure that soldiers who do not plan ahead get home safely. One example is a "Ride-Home" program that uses a taxi card. "Ride-Home" taxi cards have text in both English and German informing taxi drivers that the soldier does not have sufficient cash to get back to post, but that a designated person on post will pay the fare for the soldier. Fares paid with "Ride-Home" taxi cards come from an informal fund maintained with money reimbursed from soldiers who use the card.
3. The key ingredient to the success of any "Ride-Home" program is for it to remain a non-punitive system. "Ride-Home" programs may take many forms and should be developed at the local level. For those units with a "Ride-Home" program already in place, I urge you to give it a hard look to determine whether it is working as intended.
4. Leaders need to get the message out that driving while impaired is unacceptable. There is no excuse for any soldier to drive while impaired or ride with someone who is. This message should be reinforced often, particularly during safety briefs given prior to weekend passes. A genuine concern for the safety and welfare of our soldiers is our duty and responsibility.
5. Unit commanders who need assistance with developing a Ride-Home program should contact the POC, Mr. Thomas Taylor, at 370-5670.
6. Victory Corps!

WILLIAM S. WALLACE  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

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